

Report on the viability of onsite ditch as a river over Map 4 Lot 5

1530 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA

Per the MA Riverfront Act, 310 CMR 10.58(2)(a) shall include any river or stream that is shown as perennial on the current United States Geologic Survey, however the act goes on in CMR 10.58(2)(d) to state that "the issuing authority shall find any stream is intermittent based on documented field observation that it is not flowing." The intent of this report is to present those observations to prove that the wet ditch at the rear of the site is an intermittent stream or wetland deserving of a 100' protection buffer and not a perennial stream or river deserving of a 200' protection buffer based on the observation that it is not flowing.

The act requires that observations be made on 4 separate days during a consecutive 12 month period. Observations are to be made "during a non-drought period on a stream not significantly affected by drawdown from withdrawals of water supply wells, direct withdrawals, impoundments, or other human-made flow reductions or diversions." December and January are generally thought to be a "wet season, and observations were mostly done the day after a rain event. Onsite observations were made on December 28 & 30, 2021 and January 4 & 6, 2022. Still photos and video were taken at each site visit and will be submitted with this report.

At the rear of the site is a farm field on Map 4 Lot 46, 78 Wheaton Avenue and the ditch in question appears to terminate at the edge of that field. It may be collecting water from the wetland area to the west, but the defined depression of the ditch "peters out" at the edge of the field and does not directly connect to any other water body or depression. Similarly at the southerly end of the ditch the depression terminates and does not appear to connect to any other water body or depression. There is a pond to the east and it is possible that the ditch may have connected to it in the past but there is currently no sign of a connection and no sign of flow. The ditch terminates at the westerly edge of a cart path that connects fields on Lot 46 to Lot 5. No pipes or conduits were found under the cart path. Review of aerial photos on Google Earth show that cart path dates back to at least 1995, or possibly earlier.

No flow or movement of water was found in the ditch during any of the site observations. A high spot was observed approximately mid way along the ditch where water was never present. The high spot occurred between wetland flag S-A11 & S-B10. A photograph of the high spot from January 6, 2022 along with a photo of the cart path from December 30, 2021 is included at the end of this report.

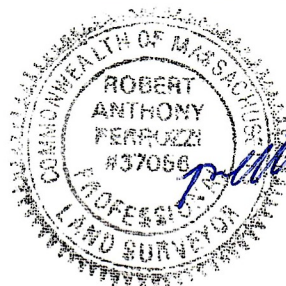
Observations, photographs and video were collected by Robert Anthony Perruzzi, Registered Land Surveyor MA 37056. Due to the size of photo and videos collected they cannot be readily incorporated into this report or attached to emails. All collected data is to be included on a USB thumb drive with this report.



1 Cart Path



2 High Spot



Printed & signed
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